

## Hawai'i Island Dengue Outbreak Update

Jan. 20, 2016

<b>0</b> Potentially Infectious Case	<b>224</b> Recovered or Recovering Cases No Longer Infectious (Onset of illness between Sept. 11, 2015 – Jan. 8, 2016)	<b>224</b> Total Confirmed Cases Since 2015 (Onset of illness between Sept. 11, 2015 - Jan. 8, 2016)	
Breakdown Of All Cases Confirmed			
202 Residents	22 Visitors	182 Adults	42 Children

### Community Outreach

The Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) is continuing weekly community sessions in Kona and Hilo to provide timely updates and answer questions about dengue fever. Sessions cover the prevalence, transmission, and symptoms of dengue fever, outbreak response efforts, how to interpret case counts and maps, and the best ways to fight the bite. These sessions are open to the public and scheduled to continue through February.

- **Hilo:** Thursdays, 11:30 a.m. at State Office Building, Rooms A/B/C, 75 Aupuni St.
- **Kealahou:** Thursdays, 11:30 a.m. at West Hawai'i Civic Center, 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Hwy.
- **Captain Cook:** Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m. at Yano Hall, 82-6165 Māmalahoa Hwy.

The Hāmākua-Kohala Health Center is hosting a meeting for the Honoka'a community on Friday, Jan. 22 at 6 p.m. at the North Hawai'i Education & Research Center. DOH and Hawai'i County Civil Defense (CD) will update the community on the latest in response efforts in Waipi'o Valley.

Organizations seeking information on the Hawaii Island dengue fever outbreak may call DOH to request a presentation. Informational materials are also available for download and sharing on DOH's website at <http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/dengue-outbreak-2015/>

### Visitor Industry Outreach

Signage and repellent dispensers are currently set up at both Hilo and Kona airports on Hawaii Island. The Hawaii Department of Transportation (DOT) will post signage at all state airports to increase awareness of dengue fever and the precautions that all visitors should take. While there are no related dengue cases on other islands, all travelers are advised to take precautions as visitors and residents travel frequently between islands.

### Vector Control Updates

This week, an entomology team from the Dengue Branch of the Division of Vector-Borne Diseases, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) returned to Hawai'i to continue their consultation and mosquito surveillance work with DOH on dengue vectors (mosquitoes) in the Kona area. The team will use all available historic and current data to map, trap and identify mosquitoes that may be carrying the dengue virus.

DOH is seeking additional entomology and vector control support on Hawai'i island to increase local staffing resources. To date, DOH Vector Control augmented by County staff, has conducted 281 site surveys and 578 mosquito abatement sprayings since the beginning of the outbreak.

A donation of 3,000 mosquito traps was received from Springstar, Inc. The traps are being used in selected areas of concern including Milolii. The traps are being considered as a potential mosquito abatement alternative for organic farmers.

Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency (HCCDA) continues to take complaints of possible mosquito habitats on public property, or on neighboring property when contact cannot be made with the property owner. Risk Reduction teams consisting of HCCDA, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT),

and DOH personnel will investigate complaints and identify corrective action. To date, 142 complaints have been assessed and mitigated.

Residents are asked for their assistance in allowing Vector Control and Risk Reduction teams to enter and assess properties for mosquito hazards. **When residents are not at home, teams will leave a note requesting a call back. Residents are strongly encouraged to call the number listed. Mosquito surveys and treatments are performed only after consent from homeowners.**

### Outbreak Investigation and Laboratory Updates

DOH disease investigators continue to investigate possible cases of dengue fever. On Jan. 13, DOH sent out an advisory to physicians statewide to provide an update on the outbreak and remind health care providers to continue to watch for and report suspect cases. Clinicians are reminded to include valid patient contact and address information, which is crucial to assure a swift public health response. It is estimated that a four-week period with no confirmed cases may signal an end to the outbreak.

To view a map of risk areas for potential dengue infection and a graph of all confirmed cases since September 2015 go to: <http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/dengue-outbreak-2015/>

DOH's laboratory on O'ahu has been receiving dengue fever samples and completing testing routinely within 24 hours Monday through Friday. All confirmed cases to date have recovered or are recovering. In addition to the confirmed cases to date, 938 suspect cases have been excluded based on the investigation and/or negative test results.

### Public Notices

The Waipi'o Valley Access Road and valley area remains closed and access is limited to Waipi'o Valley residents only until further notice. Ho'okena and Miloli'i Beach Parks remain closed until further notice. The State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) has also closed state lands in the vicinity of Miloli'i and Honomalino to all people except essential personnel and residents of the areas.

HCCDA radio messages continue to run regularly on Hawai'i Island radio stations, as well as Maui radio stations that reach certain areas of Hawai'i Island. Ongoing updates, additions and revisions are being made regularly to CD and DOH websites and social media channels.

### Partnerships

Partners in this effort are operating under a unified command, headed by incident commander Darryl Oliveira, Administrator of HCCDA. Major operational partners are the Hawaii State Department of Health and the Office of Governor David Ige. County partners are Civil Defense, Fire, Parks & Recreation, Public Works, and the Office of Mayor Billy Kenoi.

Since the beginning of this outbreak, DOH has been in constant contact with the CDC, whose role is to provide technical expertise and advice. CDC has also made a "Resources to Media" link available at [cdc.gov/dengue/training/dengue101.html](http://cdc.gov/dengue/training/dengue101.html)

### Public Contacts

**General Dengue Information:** 211, staffed Mon-Fri 7a - 5p, closed on holidays.

**Hawai'i County Civil Defense** – *concerns about mosquito habitat hazards* – (808) 935-0031, staffed Mon-Fri 7:45a - 4:30p, closed holidays (leave message for response next business day).

[www.hawaiicounty.gov/civil-defense](http://www.hawaiicounty.gov/civil-defense)

<https://www.facebook.com/hawaiicountycivildefense>

**State Department of Health** – *report suspected cases, questions on access to health care, request presentations* – (808) 974-6001, staffed Mon-Fri 7:45a - 4:30p, closed on state holidays (leave a message for response next business day).

[health.hawaii.gov](http://health.hawaii.gov),

<https://www.facebook.com/HawaiiDOH>

[https://twitter.com/HIgov\\_Health](https://twitter.com/HIgov_Health)

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